

MESSAGE TRANSFER METHOD AND APPARATUS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10       The number of nodes that can be identified is  
increased without redefining switching request and  
switching status fields in existing K1/K2 bytes. Eight  
bits are assigned to a node ID field, and source node ID  
is stored in the node ID field when transmitting over a  
short path, while a destination node ID is stored in the  
node ID field when it transmitting over a long path.